

mass of meat, the center of a ham being as perfectly impregnated with it as the outside. It

obviates any necessity of bagging or otherwise protecting from flies, since they can remain in the pickle till wanted for use.

CHILLS AND FEVER.

We copy the following from the *Rural New Yorker*. If we had seen the paragraph going the rounds of the press as a waif, without parentage, we would probably have passed it by with much doubt as to its efficacy, but the edi-

for the above-named paper does not chronicle frivolities; therefore, we conclude that it means what it says: "Here is a remedy for malaria and chills and fever which we know has effected cures in a number of cases: Take three or four ounces of powdered red Peruvian bark and spread it evenly in a pad of red flannel. This pad must then be quilted, so as to give it a puffed appearance, and to keep the bark

der in position. Place this directly over the stomach, holding it there by one band around the neck and another around the waist. It should be removed as soon as the patient feels that the disease is broken."

NEW CATALOGUES.

Catalogues of the Marseilles Manufacturing Company, Marseilles, La Salle County, Illinois.

These catalogues embrace a vast number of

articles of the greatest value to farmers, including wind mills, corn shellers from hand powers, with a capacity of shelling from 250 to 300 bushels per day; to horse powers which shell ten times this amount daily; mills for grinding feed, &c. Horse powers of various patterns and sizes are figured and described, with ample testimonials from those who have

Gopher corn cultivator has special attractions, as it is an improvement in the right direction. It is becoming to be understood that deep tearing and cutting among corn roots is not cultivation, but destruction. With most of the cultivators in use any advantage which may be gained by stirring the soil is more than counterbalanced by breaking and tearing the roots.

of the growing corn. What is wanted is an implement which is completely under the control of the operator as regards depth of culture, and which will stir and loosen the surface without the risk of a probability that by some sudden jerk of the team, some lump in the soil, or carelessness of the operator, the roots are unearthed. A shallow-cutting cultivator under

Gopher is the best approach to this which we have seen. See advertisement on 8th page.

—Potatoes intended for seed should receive no rough handling at any time. If any are bruised, spread them in a dry, cool place until the surface has been dried over. If put in large bins while the skin is bruised many of the eyes will have their vitality injured. This is the cause of many unexplained failures of the potato crop.

—The trees recognized by the "timber claim act" are the ash, elder, birch, beech, black walnut, hawthorn, black locust, larch, maple, box elder, oak, pine, cedar, chestnut, cottonwood, elm, fir, spruce, poplar, money bush, plane tree, buttonwood, mountain ash, white walnut, white willow and tulip tree.

—To furnish vegetable food for poultry in winter it is advised to sow canary grass seed in winter or boxes of earth placed in a warm cellar in which it will grow in a few days. Another plan is to hang up ears of corn so as to fail to head by a string from the top of the

—Bees are of great value to fruit growers on account of the aid they give to the fertilization of flowers. Very many blossoms depend for their production to the visits of bees. The hive bee is the most industrious of insects. In bad weather wild bees stay at home, while the hive bee is facing it.

—It is important to use salt when eating nuts of any kind, as it assists their digestion if they are accompanied by coffee. Too freely of them, salt is of good corrective.

—The Wilson blackberry has maintained its reputation as one of the best fruits of its kind for a quarter of a century. A seedling from it, called the Wilson Junior, which is said to be a more juicy berry, ripening early and more prolific than the Old Wilson, is now announced for sale.

The Christmas rose, *Helleborus niger*, is a favorite of the English. It is a perennial, and it is equally hardier here, although it flowers earlier. We have picked flowers weekly for the past six weeks from a plant in a friend's garden, and it will survive forever frost-shrivel the forming buds.

The *Professors* are getting badly mixed up in regard to peach yellows. One says it is caused by a virus, the other by a lack of potash or something "n" other in the soil. They will say everything except the proper thing,—which is, that they don't know and can't tell.

The peach leaf blister, which has been observed and its origin well-known for a century, has lately assumed a formidable character, and the *Professors* have counseled the destruction of trees upon which it may make its appearance; otherwise, it will become epidemic and destroy every peach tree in the country.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Our Agricultural Editor's Weekly Chat With His Readers.

I have been making an effort for several years to cover a small number of plants made of cross-pollinated, with some kind of vine or rosette, but have not been very successful. Perhaps THE NATIONAL GARDEN would be willing to suggest something that would cover it, and oblige—A Soldier Worker.

A. We know of nothing so well fitted for rapid growing suitable plant as the Japanese Honeycreeper. It is nearly ever-green, bears full foliage, and very fragrant blossoms.

Q. Can rhubarb seed be purchased, or how is the plant raised from seed in the States? Va.

A. Rhubarb seed is sold by most seedsmen, but the best way to start a bed is to procure

As the *Linnæus* or the *Victoria*.

My *fulcrum* has lost all its leaves, and I am afraid that it will die. It is a white one and I would be losing a fine thing. Can you do anything for me?

—Mary S. Berke.

Ans. It is all right. *Fulcrum* naturally loses its leaves in winter, like other deciduous plants. Keep it in the cellar from frost, and do not water it for a month. It will bud out when it feels that spring has come again.

I have a young fig tree that I think will be another year before it will bear. Please let me know if you think it is now too late to trim it.

C. C. C.

Ans. We would not advise trimming it in any way. What it needs is protection during winter, so that the fruiting branches will be perfect and uninjured next spring. Bend down the branches to the ground as far as possible, then cover them well with leaves or boards to keep them from direct surface exposure.

with soil, similar to covering a potato pit.

I have seen a notice about American raisins, and would ask for the names of the best grapes for raisins, and the best K. L. Engraving.

As the only raisins made in this country are produced in California, and these are made from the grapes of California, and the grapes are principally grown in that State, both for wine and for table use. No American grape, that is, a grape not produced from any of our native species, has been produced in this country, and the grapes are not an article of commerce. In California the raisin industry is rapidly progressing. As the foreign grape will not grow in Maryland you cannot succeed in this industry.

Miss Nellie Arthur, the President's daughter, is president of the Washington "Children's Society," and is a very young person, and is a very young people connected with the Washington Sunday-schools, who will provide a mammoth

This idea, which originated last year with lady in Portland, Me., and is described in the Christmas number of *St. Nicholas*, has been cordially taken up all over the country, and many similar clubs are forming. Not only will thousands of poor children be made happy, but the blessedness of giving will first be felt by many others who have only known, so far, the half pleasures of receiving.